

**Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative (SBCI)
Work Plan and Program Update
2010-2012**

	Action	Status	Contacts	Next Steps
SBCI General Information	Communication and Outreach needed	SBCI web site(s) has been created and hosted on MDEQ and Bay County home pages: http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135- http://www.baycounty-mi.gov/executive/saginawbaycoastalinitiativesbci.aspx	For additional information contact Bay County Environmental Affairs and Community Development Laura Ogar ogarl@baycounty.net	Promote and maintain Web site encourage linkages; stakeholder outreach.
	SBCI web site needed		Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Lansing Office	
Email List				
Executive Committee Development		No official organizational or membership body. First meeting identified top priorities (Work Plan) with Regional meetings held 2-4 times a year to review work progress, findings, and refine end points; Work Groups focus on specific issues and meet more frequently. An Executive Committee is being considered to more formally coordinate the efforts.	For additional information contact	Discussion at future SBCI meeting
			Tom Hickner, Bay County Executive, at hicknert@baycounty.net (989-895-4130)	
Saginaw Bay Tourism Enhancement Effort		Led by the Visitors and Convention Bureau, a work group formed to enhance the local visitors' experience of the natural resource features in the Saginaw Bay area. MIGreat Bay, Inc. a 501(c)(3) was formed with the goal to provide enhancement and coordination of state and local tourism efforts. The www.MiGreatbay.com web site is up and they are exploring ways to further develop and coordinate regional tourism efforts with the Great lakes Bay Regional Convention and Visitors Bureau.	For more information contact Huron County Commissioner Clark Elftman (989- 551-2459)	Completed.
			Iosco County Tourism Helen Pasakarnis pasakarnis.etch@charterinternet.com Jim Hergott – Saginaw RC&D saginawbay@aol.com	
Saginaw Bay Algae (Muck)		A work group has been formed to review alternative algae (muck) control options at the Bay City State Recreation Area.	To participate or be informed of this effort contact: Ernie Krygier, Save Our Shoreline (989-793-3711)	Completed purchase of Beach Groomer by Friends of State Park. Still needed: Muck Removal needed from water in nearshore zone.

Regulatory Improvement	Protection of High Quality Coastal Wetlands	Recognition was made on the importance of preserving high quality wetlands and at the same time to allow greater regulatory options for development of lower value wetlands. An effort to ID and map coastal wetlands has been completed which is available on CD in ArcReader format with a manual describing how to use these maps.	If you would like information regarding the results of this effort contact DEQ (517-241-4506) For copies of the final maps and manual, please contact the Environmental Assistance Center at 1-800-662-9278 or deq-ead-env-assist@michigan.gov .	Completed
	Increasing Access to Saginaw Bay	Access was defined as visual and physical public access for recreational purposes. The Small Harbors Coalition formed to encourage (shipping) funding for dredging of small boat harbors. Arenac County completed a Road End study to improve access points to the Saginaw Bay. A work group is being formed to address the need for a commercial entertainment access point on the Bay to re-establish the former Wenona Beach type commercial access point to the Saginaw Bay is being considered.		Funding agreements reached with Commercial shippers for small boat harbors. On-going.
	<i>Phragmites</i> Control in the Saginaw Bay Coastal Area	Work Group formed to conduct a <i>Phragmites</i> control and restoration demonstration project in the Saginaw Bay area. The DEQ through a grant from US EPA-GLNPO is currently in Year 4 of the <i>Phragmites</i> control efforts on public and private lands in Hampton Township. In addition, this work has prepared a Landowner's Guide to <i>Phragmites</i> Control that can be found at: http://www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/deq-ogl-Guide-Phragmites_204659_7.pdf	If you would like information regarding this effort contact Emily Finnell, DEQ, at finnelle@michigan.gov , (517-241-7927)	Demonstration project completed. Grants received for control project at Pinconning area.
	Evaluation of Human Health Risks Associated with the Algae (muck).	The Saginaw Bay Science Committee finalized their report and presented their findings. The report can be found at: http://www.deq.state.mi.us/documents/deq-ogl-sbci-SBReport-Final-HumanHealthRisks.pdf	If you would like to receive the results of the evaluation contact Christine Alexander, DEQ, at alexandc@michigan.gov ,	Completed
	Saginaw Bay CSO Committee	Work Group took on review of CSO discharge data to evaluate level of bacteria sources from CSO discharges in the Saginaw Bay area.	Laura Ogar, Bay County Environmental Affairs & Community Development, at ogar1@baycounty.net (989-895-4135)	Completed, education effort underway.

	Evaluate Current Procedures and Processes, and Identification of Opportunities for Improvement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Septic Systems • Animal Feeding Operations 	<p>The DEQ is in the process of reviewing the concerns presented at the SBCI meeting and will be seeking external input to ensure that these issues are adequately addressed.</p> <p>Currently working on aq regional Septic/Sanitary Code</p> <p>Revoloving loan fund established for septic system replacements</p>	<p>If you would like to be involved in this effort or want information regarding the meeting contact Charles Bauer, DEQ, (989-686-8025, Ext. 8261)</p>	Effort currently underway.
Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination of State/Federal/ Local Programs Kawkawlin River Watershed Initiative	<p>Spearheaded by the Bay County Drain Commissioner and DEQ, a work group has been formed to develop and implement a Kawkawlin River restoration plan.</p>	<p>If you would like to be involved in or want information on this project contact Joseph Rivet, Bay County Drain Commissioner at rivetj@baycounty.net (989-895-4290) or Charles Bauer, DEQ, at bauerc@michigan.gov, (989-686-8025, Ext. 8261)</p>	Final Watershed Plan submitted to MDEQ
	Brownfields Redevelopment within the Saginaw Bay Coastal Area	<p>The DEQ will provide assistance to communities to help them achieve their Brownfield Clean up and Redevelopment goals. Staff are available to help interested communities understand the applicable Brownfield laws and regulations as well as providing information regarding the limited Brownfield Grant and Loan money.</p> <p>DEQ staff have been working with the Arenac County Brownfield Assessment Team. One of the goals of the Arenac County Team is to prioritize contamination sites that have the potential to affect the Saginaw Bay.</p>	<p>If you have Brownfield questions or would like more information contact DEQ Rhonda Klann, DEQ, at klannr@michigan.gov (989-686-8025, Ext 8302) For information on Grants and Loans contact Susan Sandell , DEQ, at sandells@michigan.gov (231-775-3960)</p>	DEQ staff are currently available to provide assistance as requested.
	Cass River Restoration	<p>Local interests are beginning the development of this effort.</p>	<p>If you would like to be involved in this effort or want information regarding the meeting contact Charles Bauer, DEQ, at bauerc@michigan.gov , (989-686-8025, Ext. 8261)</p>	Effort currently underway.